Size: 3,688 acres
Mission: Provide logistics support for aircraft, missile, space, and electronics programs
HRS Score: 57.93; placed on NPL in July 1987
IAG Status: IAG signed in 1989
Contaminants: Solvents, metal plating wastes, caustic cleaners and degreasers, paints, waste lubricants, photochemicals, phenols, chloroform, spent acids and bases, and PCBs
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: $388.7 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): $409.5 million (FY2033)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for BRAC Sites: FY2016

Sacramento, California

Restoration Background

Environmental contamination at McClellan Air Force Base has resulted from sumps near industrial operations, landfills, leaks near industrial waste lines, surface spills, and underground storage tanks (USTs). A study in FY79 detected groundwater contamination that led to the closure of two on-base and three off-base drinking water wells. In addition to 373 acres of contaminated soil in the vadose zone, three large plumes of contaminated groundwater have been identified over 660 acres.

Sites at the installation were grouped into 11 operable units (OUs), including an installationwide Groundwater OU. Preliminary Assessments and Site Inspections for all OUs, and the Remedial Investigation (RI) for five OUs, have been completed. A streamlining effort resulted in the development of a basewide Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for implementing soil vapor extraction (SVE) at the base.

In FY93, the installation was selected as a national test site for technologies to clean up chlorinated solvents and inorganic contaminants in soil and groundwater. More than 800,000 pounds of contaminants has been removed from the soil and groundwater. The installation also converted its technical review committee to a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The first interim Record of Decision (ROD), signed in FY93, addressed polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination at OU B1.

In FY95, the Groundwater OU interim ROD was signed. The installation has implemented 213 Interim Remedial Actions, including a landfill cap, construction of a groundwater treatment plant, and demolition of an electroplating facility. The UST program has removed or abandoned in place 210 USTs.

In FY97, eight SVE systems were in operation, as was a groundwater treatment system that pumped 700 gallons per minute of contaminated groundwater from 32 extraction wells. A dual-phase extraction system was installed to treat volatile organic compound (VOC)–contaminated soil and groundwater. Thirty-six on- and off-base groundwater wells were decommissioned, eliminating possible conduits for additional soil and groundwater contamination. Thirteen USTs were removed, and 33,000 feet of linear piping associated with the industrial waste line was inspected and 4,000 feet repaired. A treatment optimization strategy for groundwater cleanup was initiated. This strategy has saved $3 million to date. A landfill cleanup strategy that will save McClellan over $130 million in cleanup costs was developed.

FY98 Restoration Progress

The Phase II groundwater action design was completed, an installation contract was awarded, and construction started. Three EE/CAs for SVE systems were completed, and fieldwork for an additional 10 EE/CAs began. RIs were completed for five OUs, and a Phase I RI was completed for all 11 OUs.

The Air Force Base Conversion Agency obtained congressional approval for payment of EPA-stipulated penalties ($15,000).

Several RAB members were trained. The installation's Environmental Management Directorate is working with RAB members to procure a Technical Assistance for Public Participation contractor. The installation's BRAC cleanup team meets monthly.

Plan of Action

- Install 13 SVE systems by the end of FY99
- Complete all RIs by FY99
- Pay EPA-stipulated penalties in FY99
- In FY99, complete a ROD for remediation of VOCs that allows final actions for soil before the installationwide ROD, addressing restoration of all 11 OUs, is completed in FY03
- Design and install Phase III of the groundwater actions by the end of FY00
- Complete installation of all required SVE systems (seven additional systems) in FY00

Sites Achieving RIP or RC Per Fiscal Year